

John Reid to Andrew Jackson, October 31, 1814, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

MAJOR JOHN REID¹ TO JACKSON.

¹ See vol. I., p. 247.

Franklin, Tenn. , October 31, 1814.

Dear General, Your letter of the 11th Inst, reached me by last mail. It has been, some weeks, since I advised the sec: of war of my acceptance of the appointment which had been offered me.

The health of my family continues ill; and my own is not thoroughly restored. I have the fullest confidence, however, that I shall be able to leave home in a few weeks. You will probably see me in company with the first who leave *this* Country for *that* .

I sincerely rejoice at the great accession of force which is about to be furnished you: I foresee, in it, the discomfiture of the hopes of our enemy and the full establishment of your own fame. I am no flatterer, General; and you will believe me when I say the latter object will always be dear to my heart. Neither, General am I ungrateful, But my returns are all, those of the heart; and these, I know, are the only ones you would accept. I cannot bow, and scrape, and make professions; and it is my happiness that these are not the passports to your favour or friendship. This language, however, I must use—he who “cherished the good that was in me, and did not harshly rebuke the bad” ought to find me, a faithful follower, “through good and through ill report.” He is entitled to my gratitude and my services; and while I live they shall always be his.

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